



Representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church congratulate the Patriarch of Jerusalem Theophilos on the occasion of the Nativity of Christ.



DECR Communication service, 08.01.2026.

On 8th January the head of the Russian Spiritual Mission in Jerusalem archimandrite Vassian (Zmeyev), the head of the Russian Spiritual Mission in Jerusalem under the Russian Orthodox Church Abroad archimandrite Roman (Krasovsky), the mother superior of Gorney Convent in Ein-Karem abbess Yekaterina (Chernysheva), clerics of the Mission hieromonk Filofei (Artyushin), hieromonk Pyotr (Borodulin) and deacon Makary Petukhov attended the traditional reception which is annually held in honour of the feast of the Nativity of Christ in the Great Throne Room of the Greek Orthodox Church of the Jerusalem Patriarchate.

The reception was headed by His Beatitude the Patriarch of Jerusalem Theophilos III, who cordially greeted all those gathered and congratulated them on the feast of the Nativity of Christ.

Also attending the reception were bishops and clerics of the Greek Orthodox Church of Jerusalem, representatives of the consulate of Greece in Jerusalem, representatives of the local authorities, workers at the Mission, sisters of the Gorney Convent, representatives of the Russian, Greek and Arab speaking Orthodox communities of Jerusalem and pilgrims from Russia.

His Beatitude Patriarch Theophilos and the guests at the reception were greeted by Nativity hymns sung by the graduates of the Sretensky Theological Academy, reports the Mission's website.

Archimandrite Vassian congratulated His Beatitude Patriarch Theophilos on the occasion of the feast of the Nativity of Christ and conveyed to His Beatitude messages of congratulations from His Holiness the Patriarch of Moscow and Of all Rus' Kirill and the chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate the metropolitan of Volokolamsk Anthony.

Then those who worked at the Russian Spiritual Mission presented His Beatitude with flowers and Christmas gifts.

Source: <https://mospat.ru/en/news/93916/>